

Maine Dressage Society Minutes
Sunday, January 30, 2011

Members present:

CMDA; Cheryl Peaslee, Carol Poulin-Taylor, Elizabeth Owens
EMDA; Gloria Kelleher, Jeri Blether, Andrea Hill, Lori Sites, Rebecca Clark, Tammi Brown, Betsy Hudson
NMDA; Paula Foote (at large), Michelle Zambrano, Alison LaCourse
SMDA; Elena Raymond, Gretchen Shantar, Bobby Murray (at large), Susan Pendleton
WMDEA; Beth Brainerd, Part Martin, Gail Rein

Call To Order By Bryn Walsh at 10:05

Introductions around table, as we had new members present.

Secretary's Report – Cheryl Peaslee

Minutes from September 2010 were presented. Motion to except the report as written by Michelle Zambrano, second by Carol Poulin-Taylor. Vote was all in favor.

Treasurer's Report – Presented by Tammi Brown (see attached sheet). Tammi walked us through this year to date (our year end is in March) Checking Balance \$13808.52. The 2011 Omnibus was handed out to all paid members and everyone thought it looked great. A discussion on the cost of last year's book, this year and next year's book followed. Tammi had questions on some of the funds Beth Brainerd forward to her. Beth will clear this up with Tammi. Pat Martin motion to except the report as read, Beth Brainerd second. Vote all in favor.

Membership Report – Tammi Brown we have 162 members signed up to date.

Membership cost increase for USDF- tabled until April meeting.

Committee Reports- Review who is on which committees Carol Poulin-Taylor subjected that we just have chairs or co-chairs then members could be added as needed by the chairs. So the following is a list of chairs, co-chairs and members who want to help the committees.

Bylaws Review Committee; Carol Poulin-Taylor, Beth Brainerd, Cheryl Peaslee, Bryn Walsh
Fund raising Committee, Defunct
New letter; Cheryl Peaslee
Omnibus; Becky Clark (Chair) proofer/advertizing help Michelle Zambrano, Paula Foote
Education; Bryn Walsh, Bobbie Murray
Banquet- Awards; Beth Brainerd Scholarship- Beth Brainerd
Public relations; Susan Pendleton & Gretchen Shantar
Jr rider; Pat Martin---
Fund raiser; none at this time

Newsletter – Cheryl Peaslee

Deadlines for 2011 remain the same. A discussion again should we be mailing the news letter to all members? Some of the Board members feel it would be a good thing. It was pointed out that we voted to go green last year and you can check off to have a copy sent to you on the membership form. Members can contact me and I will be glad to put one in the mail. Some Board members thought we might want to do a short version of news letter to be sent in the mail or a post card version. Where is the money coming from to support mailing out? Contact Cheryl for a hard copy. Some thought a post card should be mailed to members letting them know the newsletter is out. Tammi told the group she does a mass e-mail when the newsletter is on the Web site. Motion to send out a card to survey members if they want a hard copy mailed to them. Carol to withdraw motion. Bobby Murray is willing to call all members and see how they want the newsletter sent to them. The Board voted to let him call members.

Website – Bryn Walsh, she likes doing the web site and would like to keep doing it. Please send Show results to her after each show. She will be putting a listing of MDS shows on the web site. It will only contain contact information no e-mail addresses. It was suggested that she set up the home page as a home page not as a news page. MDS contact information on web is from 2009. Group corrected the Board Contact list and provided today.

Omnibus – Becky Clark

Summary and distribution of 2011 all members at the banquet, who have paid their dues for 2011 were given their copy of the omnibus. The others will be mailed to them after the sign up.

Tests we do not have permission from USDF to print them in this year's Omnibus. The test we have from USEF we have to pay for .50 a copy for. We cannot sell the Omnibus outside our membership. Becky Clark has an estimate for next year, she liked working with Judy and they are setting up to make next year working on the details to make it easier for all. We had 400 copies printed this year, but next year she suggested printing 300 for next year, as we cannot sell any outside of our membership. For an 150 page book, it will cost around \$2500 for next year. Questions arose about putting ads in the Omnibus for 2012? Becky will be checking into this so we do not violate any rules with USEF & USDF

Plans for 2012- ad formats, dues dates will be set and options to advertise for the 2012 Omnibus will be ready for the next meeting.

Education-

L Program Part II; Becky Clark is working with Marilyn Heath at USDF to get instructors for Part II. MDS would potentially host at UNH for June 24-26, GMHA July 22-24. Final exam 8/21-24 8/18-21 Location Center, Sept 13-18 she is waiting for cost & final approval. She still has a lot of finalization to do.

MeCTA outreach. Bryn has reached out to them to help provide lists of potential judges / L-program graduates in the state.

Clinics what do clubs want to do? Carol Poulin –Taylor has been in contact with Peter Hansen and he is willing to hold a riding clinic March or April when he is in the state, this is an opportunity for a small riding clinic. Tammi Brown can mass e-mail this to see if any club members would like to ride at this event. Cheryl Peaslee can put in newsletter. Bryn Walsh can get it on web site. Should MDS co-sponsor clinics?

JR/YR- Beth Brainerd

Scholarship is open to all members up to \$250.00 for 3 scholarships for each round. Board needs members to decide selection of each scholarship it awards. Will be forward to Beth Brainerd and then she will forward to the education committee, the form must be filled out correctly before she send it forward.

Awards and Banquet – Beth Brainerd let us know the price for facility will be going up. We have 91 signed up for this year's banquet. She showed us a new medal that she would like to order in the future. They cost less and the Board members seemed to like them.

Public Relations- Horse's Maine, NEDA articles Susan Pendleton gave us an update. She wrote articles for the Horse's Maine last year on the L-Program and all members thought they look great. She would like results of the annual banquet & photo's to do another article for the Horse's Maine. Gretchen Shantar asked about the January trade show that happens in Augusta, wondering if the club should do a booth or maybe at other horse related activities around the state promoting dressage.

New Business

Communications/ E-Mails **All Board members need to be civil about e-mails, if there is a problem please address it to the person privately. Only voting on urgent items that cannot wait until the next meeting and all other updates should be done on MDS matters by e-mail. We need to send Bryn Walsh, our president, any concerns to be put on the agenda. Michelle Zambrano encouraged that MDS members should be able to submit concerns to the board.

USDF Convention Report Bryn came back from this event with news and updated us with all the classes she sat in on. It would be good if MDS could send someone each year. She had a great time and found

it very educational.

Board members- revisit, recruit

Software- Adobe: Cost to buy the program is \$149.00 per year. We need this software to print the FEI Test and can be used to update the web site. Motion was made by Michelle Zambrano to purchase the software. Susan Pendleton seconded the motion. Vote all in favor.

Maine Farm Bureau involvement Bryn Walsh will be checking with the Farm Bureau to see if we can do something to support them. This could be a bill before the legislator for our newsletter or any other project they might have up coming.

Pat Martin presented a Lisa Weidner Aylward Scholarship request. (See attached letter.) This was tabled till the April meeting.

12:10 Becky Clark motion to adjourn.

VIII. Next Meetings

Proposed: Tuesday, April 12th @ 6:30 @ the Maine Farm Bureau in Augusta

Proposed: Tuesday, Sept. 20th @ 6:30 PM @ the Maine Farm Bureau in Augusta

Proposed: Sunday, January 29, 2012 @ 10 AM @ the Senator Inn in Augusta